

transmission system that carries electricity to load centers. These proposed bills would provide three ways to finance important transmission for rural renewable generators—through the USDA Rural Utilities Service, through modifications to the Clean Renewable Energy Bond, CREB, program, and through modifications to the Exempt Facility Bonds program.

As we have seen with the electric and telephone infrastructure financed by the USDA Rural Utilities Service since 1935, energy infrastructure is crucial to economic development for rural communities. Natural gas pipelines criss-cross rural communities, but small towns near these pipelines lack natural gas today. Some of these towns, including some in Nevada, have plans for natural gas distribution systems and local economic development that depend on access to natural gas. Federal programs to provide loans, loan guarantees, or tax-exempt bonds do not fit these plans.

The USDA does not currently finance these types of projects. My bill would allow the USDA to finance natural gas systems to connect rural communities to natural gas pipelines. Access to natural gas will provide these communities with a clean, efficient energy source, and encourage economic development.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3438

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Clean Transmission for Rural Communities Act of 2010”.

#### SEC. 2. TRANSMISSION FOR RENEWABLES.

(a) CLARIFICATION OF QUALIFIED FACILITIES FOR CLEAN RENEWABLE ENERGY BONDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 54C(d)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting “, or a facility primarily for the purpose of interconnecting one or more such qualified facilities to a high-voltage transmission line” after “electric company”.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this subsection shall apply to bonds issued after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) TAX-EXEMPT FINANCING OF CERTAIN ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION FACILITIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 142 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(A) by striking “or” at the end of paragraph (14),

(B) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (15) and inserting “, or”, and

(C) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(16) qualified electric transmission facilities.”.

(2) DEFINITION.—Section 142 of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(n) QUALIFIED ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION FACILITIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subsection (a)(16), the term ‘qualified electric transmission facility’ means any electric transmission facility which is—

“(A) owned by—

“(i) a State or political subdivision of a State, or any agency, authority, or instrumentality of any of the foregoing, providing electric service, directly or indirectly to the public, or

“(ii) a State or political subdivision of a State expressly authorized under State law to finance and own electric transmission facilities; and

“(B) primarily for the purpose of interconnecting one or more renewable energy facilities to a high-voltage transmission line.

“(2) TERMINATION.—Subsection (a)(16) shall not apply with respect to any bond issued after December 31, 2011.”.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to bonds issued after the date of enactment of this Act.

By Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. BENNET, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 3439. A bill to promote clean energy infrastructure for rural communities; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3439

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Clean Energy Infrastructure for Rural Communities Act of 2010”.

#### SEC. 2. ELECTRIC LOANS FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY.

Section 317 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 940g) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking “for electric generation” and inserting “for—

“(1) electric generation”; and

(B) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) transmission facilities primarily for the purpose of interconnecting one or more renewable energy facilities to a high-voltage transmission line.”; and

(2) by striking subsection (c).

#### SEC. 3. RURAL NATURAL GAS INFRASTRUCTURE.

Section 310B(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as subparagraph (C); and

(B) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following:

“(B) NATURAL GAS.—The term ‘natural gas’ means—

“(i) unmixed natural gas; or

“(ii) any mixture of natural and artificial gas.”; and

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (C), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (E); and

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (C) the following:

“(D) improving the economic and environmental climate by encouraging the development and construction of infrastructure to provide access to natural gas in rural communities; and”.

By Mr. GRASSLEY:

S. 3440. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the incentives for biodiesel and renewable diesel; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3440

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Emergency Biodiesel Tax Incentive Extension Act of 2010”.

#### SEC. 2. INCENTIVES FOR BIODIESEL AND RENEWABLE DIESEL.

(a) CREDITS FOR BIODIESEL AND RENEWABLE DIESEL USED AS FUEL.—Subsection (g) of section 40A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “December 31, 2009” and inserting “December 31, 2010”.

(b) EXCISE TAX CREDITS AND OUTLAY PAYMENTS FOR BIODIESEL AND RENEWABLE DIESEL FUEL MIXTURES.—

(1) Paragraph (6) of section 6426(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “December 31, 2009” and inserting “December 31, 2010”.

(2) Subparagraph (B) of section 6427(e)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “December 31, 2009” and inserting “December 31, 2010”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to fuel sold or used after December 31, 2009.

By Mr. DURBIN (himself and Mr. GREGG):

S. 3441. A bill to provide high-quality public charter school options for students by enabling such public charter schools to expand and replicate; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation designed to improve educational opportunities for struggling students. The All Students Achieving Through Reform Act, or All-STAR Act, would provide Federal resources to the most successful charter schools to help them grow and replicate.

Last week, I visited the KIPP Ascend Charter School in Chicago. You might have heard of the KIPP charter schools. The first KIPP school was founded in Texas by two Teach for America teachers. Mike Feinberg and Dave Levin wanted to start a school that would inspire high achievement for students living in disadvantaged communities. The 82 KIPP schools nationwide focus on high expectations, an intense academic curriculum, expanded school days and years, parental involvement, and high quality teachers. The results are impressive. While less than one in five low-income students attends college nationally, KIPP’s college matriculation rate stands at more than 85 percent for students who complete the 8th grade at KIPP. More than 90 percent of KIPP alumni go on to college-preparatory high schools. Collectively, they have earned millions of